

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 1. – 20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Previously Presented) A padfolio having an exterior pocket along an exterior  
2 cover comprising:

3 a pair of opposing covers joined together by a spine on an edge of each of the  
4 opposing covers;

5 the exterior pocket being located on an exterior surface of one of the opposing  
6 covers, wherein the pocket is formed by a flap joined along a base edge, the base edge  
7 being joined the exterior surface adjacent to the spine;

8 the flap including a front edge unjoined to the exterior surface and thereby  
9 constructed and arranged to receive documents through the front edge, the flap further  
10 including two side edges, each side edge having a recess taper to partially reveal whether  
11 at least a single document is held within the pocket while the flap is tensioned against the  
12 exterior surface; and

13 a pair of elastic strips connected between each side edge, respectively, and the  
14 exterior surface, the elastic strips generating tension and being constructed and arranged  
15 to maintain a holding friction against the documents, and the front edge and the two side  
16 edges being unattached to the cover except by the pair of elastic strips while a region in  
17 which documents may be viewed is visible along the side edges remote from the straps.

1 22. (Currently Amended) A padfolio with an exterior pocket along an exterior cover  
2 comprising:

3 a flap attached adjacent to ~~the~~ a spine of the padfolio, where the flap creates a base  
4 edge adjacent to the spine, ~~to~~ two side edges, and a front edge;

5           the front edge unattached to the exterior cover, and the front edge being adapted to  
6 allow documents to slide into the pocket through the front edge;  
7           an outer perimeter edge stitched on the exterior cover in an approximately  
8 rectangular shape with one side adjacent to the base edge and the approximately  
9 rectangular shape being slightly larger than the flap; and  
10          the two side edges being unattached except by a pair of elastic strips attached  
11 between plies of the flap and the outer perimeter edge, and the two side edges including a  
12 taper defined as a gap between the outer perimeter edge and the side edge being ~~wider~~  
13 narrower at the base edge and ~~narrower~~ wider at the front edge, the taper partially  
14 revealing at least a single document within the pocket when the flap is tensioned against  
15 the exterior cover by the elastic straps.

1   23.   (Previously presented) The padfolio of claim 22, wherein the elastic strips being  
2 configured with a width less than half a length of the side edge.

1   24.   (Previously presented) The padfolio of claim 22, wherein the gap being  
2 configured by a width of the base edge being greater than a width of the front edge.

1   25.   (Previously presented) The padfolio of claim 24, wherein the gap being generated  
2 by an angle between approximately 2 and 5 degrees.